

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Late Backup

Central
Library
Site

Lower Shoal Creek



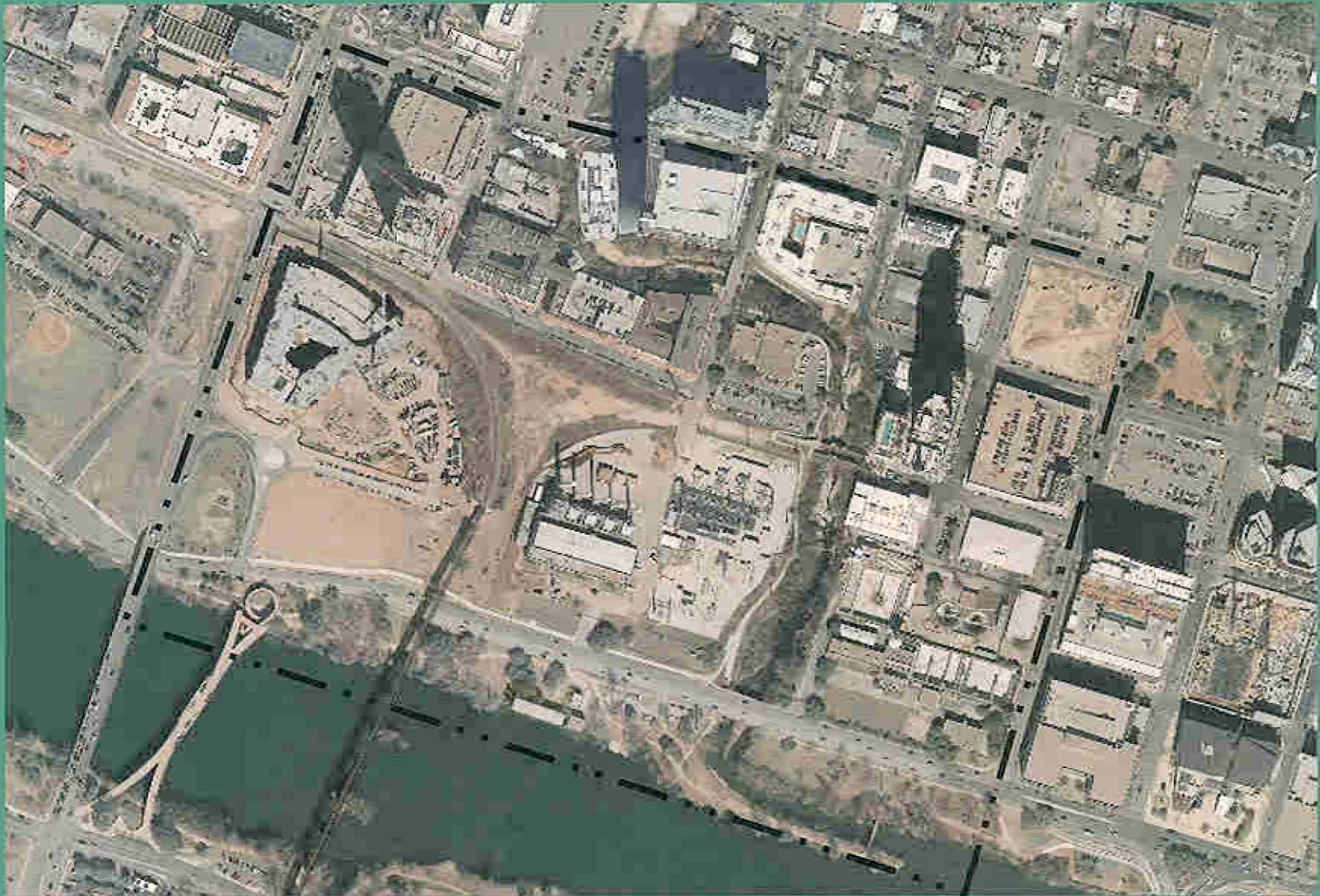
Planning and Design Coordination
Council Briefing January 28, 2010

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

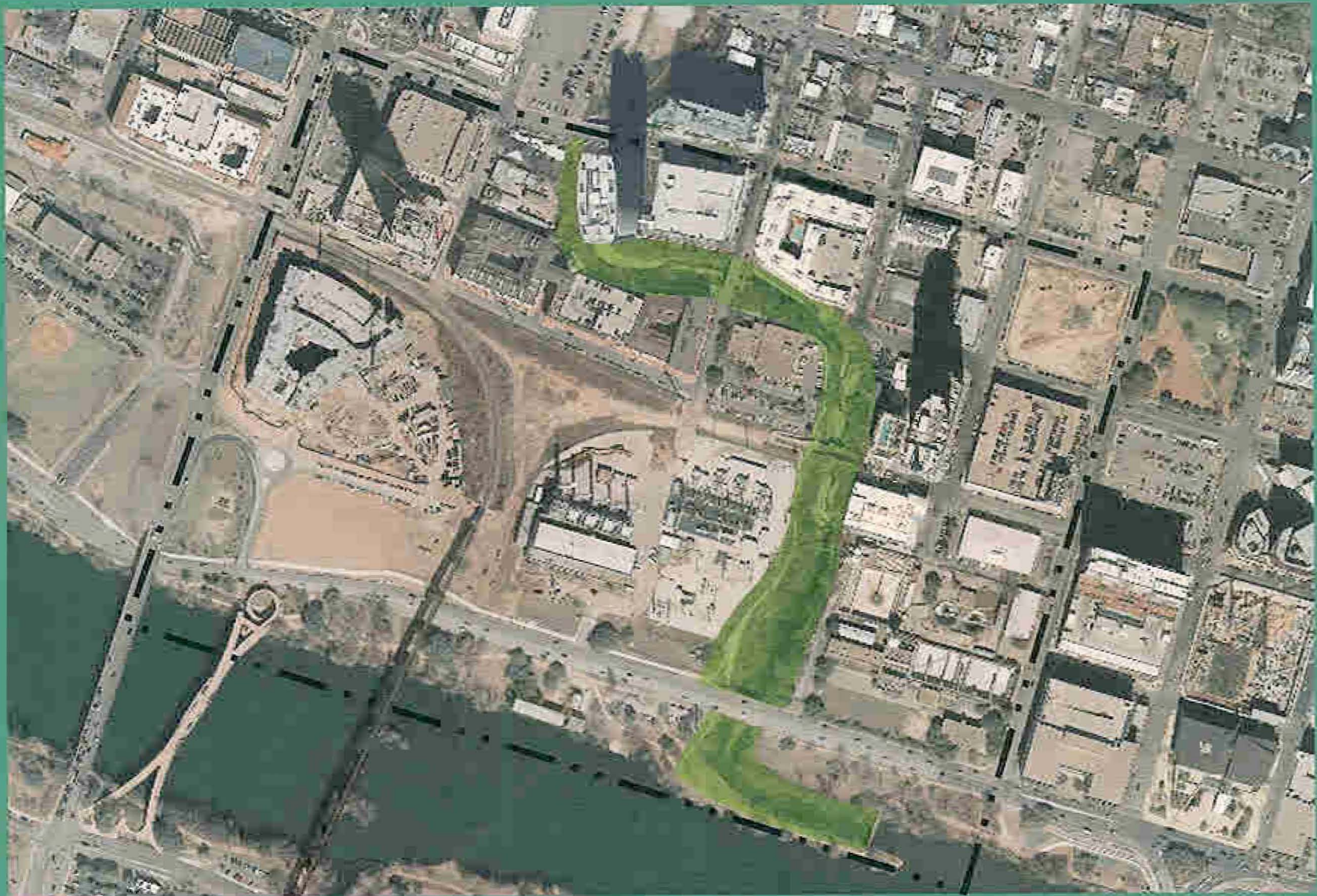
Briefing Overview

- Redevelopment District Context
- Interdepartmental Team
- Shoal Creek
 - Importance
 - Lower Shoal Creek Vision
 - Recommended Actions
- Questions





Seaholm Redevelopment District



Lower Shoal Creek



Completed Redevelopment Projects



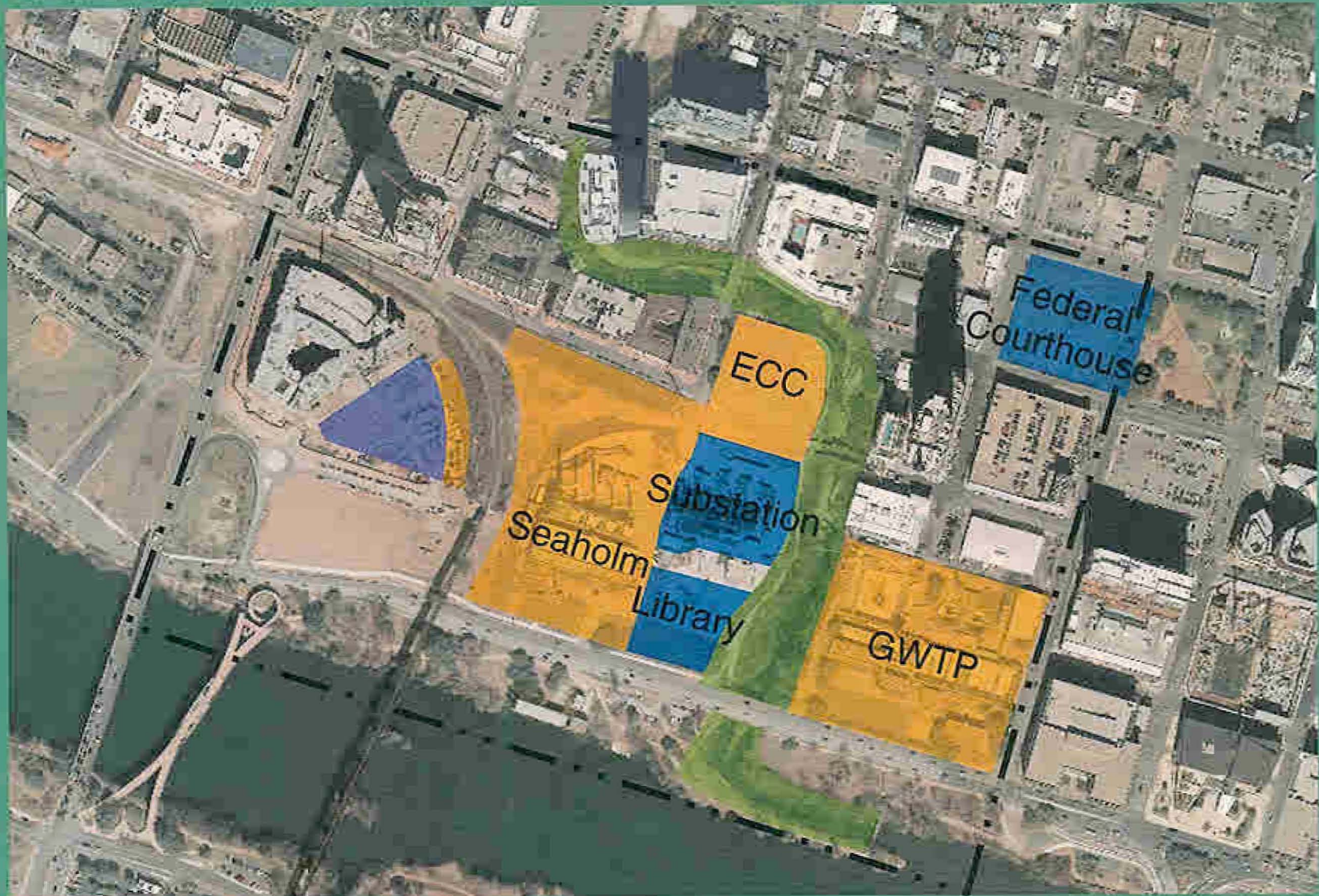
Residential



Commercial



Cultural



Planned Redevelopment Projects



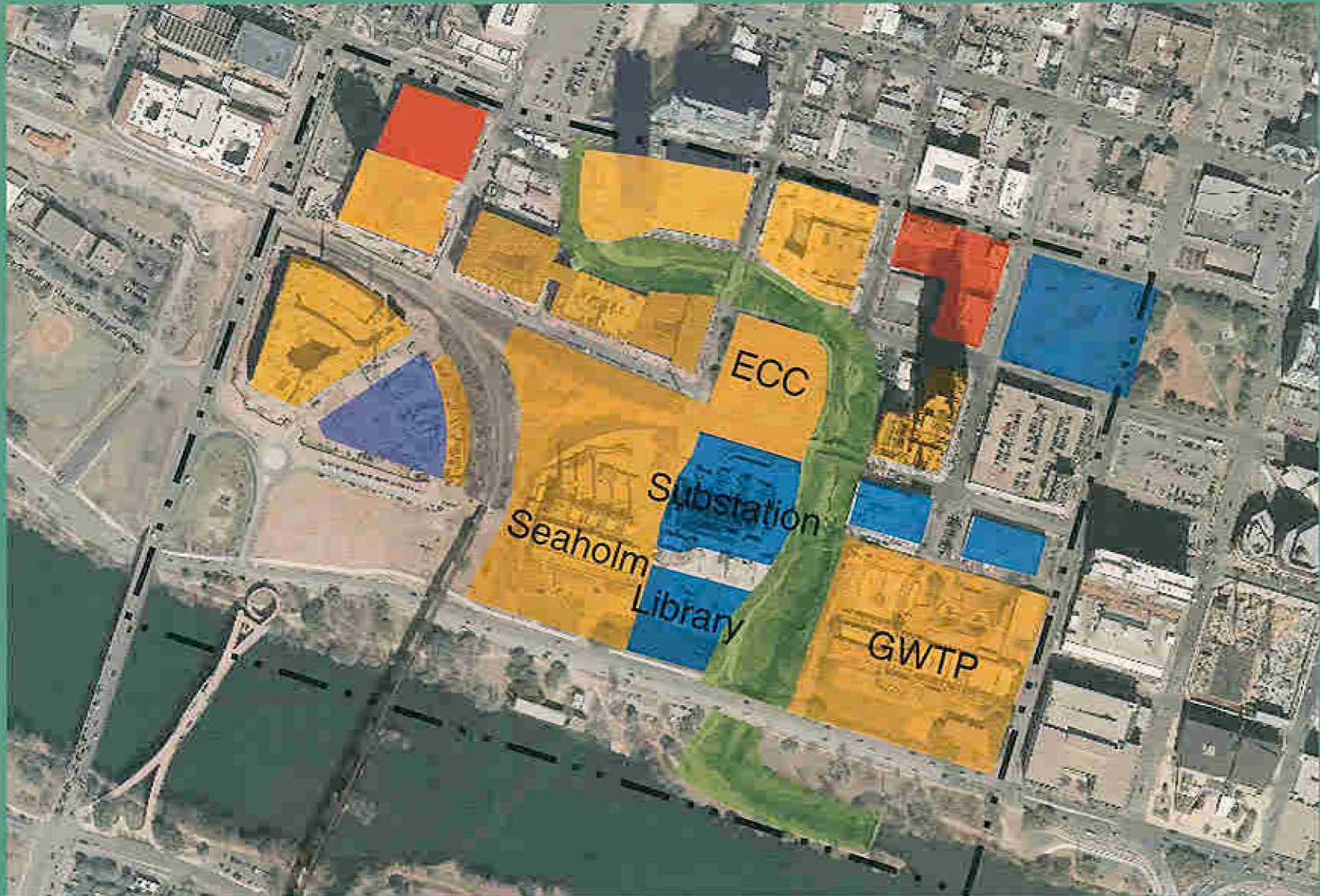
Private



Public-Private



Public



Redevelopment Projects

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Interdepartmental Team

- City Manager's Office
- Austin Energy
- Budget
- EGRSO
- Library
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Development Review
- Public Works
- Transportation
- Watershed Protection



LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Interdepartmental Team

Charge:

- Draw on 25 years of community input to establish a shared vision for Lower Shoal
- Recommend improvements to Shoal Creek
- Inform planning and design of proposed redevelopment projects along Shoal Creek



SHOAL CREEK

Importance

- Flood conveyance infrastructure
- Park & open space
 - Trail (recreation and transportation)
 - Unifier (bank restoration and trail standards)
 - Destination (urban green space)
 - Economic (increased property valuation)



LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Vision



Conveniently connected to its immediate surroundings and broader community



Overarching Principles

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Vision



Successful as a destination and a “place”



Overarching Principles

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Vision



Models integration of urban environment in
natural context



Overarching Principles

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Vision



Achieves all – connections, place-making, and sustainable urbanism – through design excellence



Overarching Principles

Recommended Enhancements

Perform subsurface utility engineering analyses to identify all live and abandoned infrastructure in creek channel



Infrastructure Removal or Screening
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Pursue funding to bury electrical transmission circuits running overhead along Shoal Creek



Infrastructure Removal or Screening
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Develop substation screen wall as public art work, and use street trees to help screen



Infrastructure Removal or Screening
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

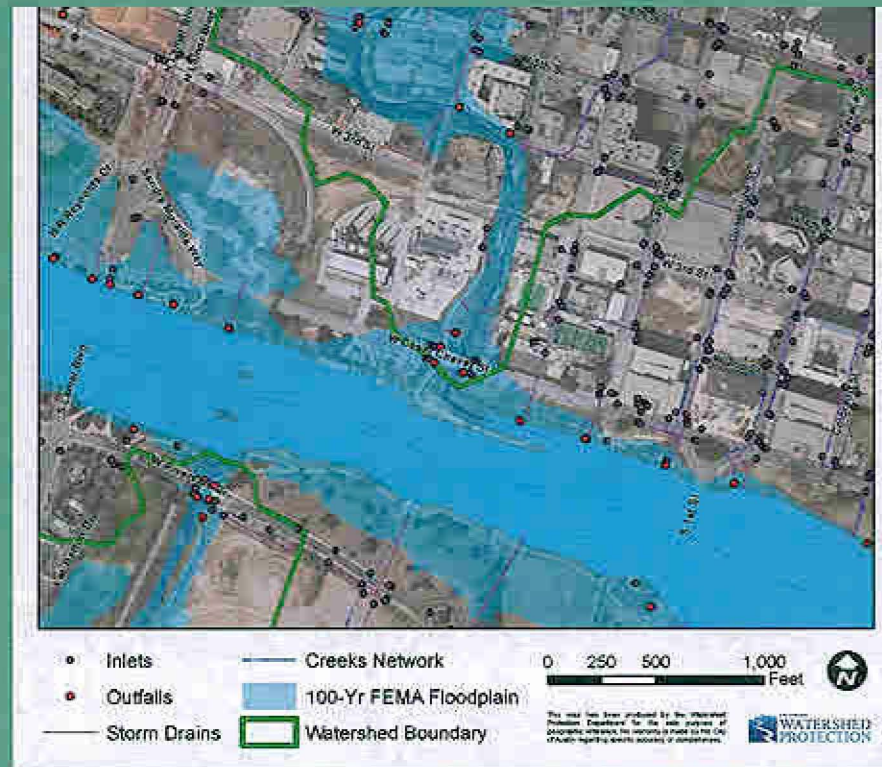
Remove or relocate exposed utility infrastructure and use natural feature facing to cover utilities that cannot be eliminated



Infrastructure Removal or Screening
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

Conduct studies to identify Shoal Creek flood hazard reduction projects



Flood Hazard Reduction Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Adopt uniform bank restoration standards



Bank Restoration
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

- Complete Green WTP streambank stabilization project
- Encourage private property owners to implement bank restoration standards
- With Central Library project team, identify library elements that can support and interface with the parkland
- Redesign proposed streambank and trail improvements adjacent to Central Library tract



Bank Restoration
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

- Implement additional bank restoration projects on City property



Bank Restoration
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

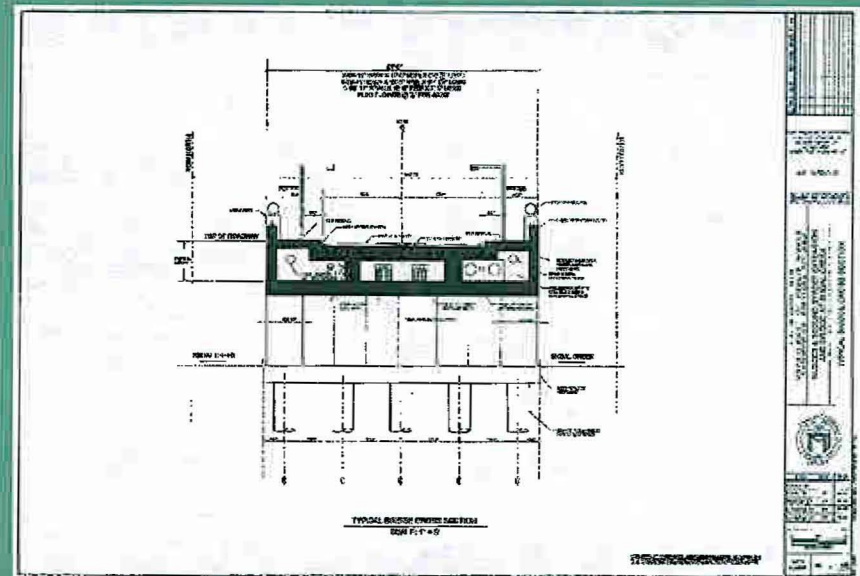
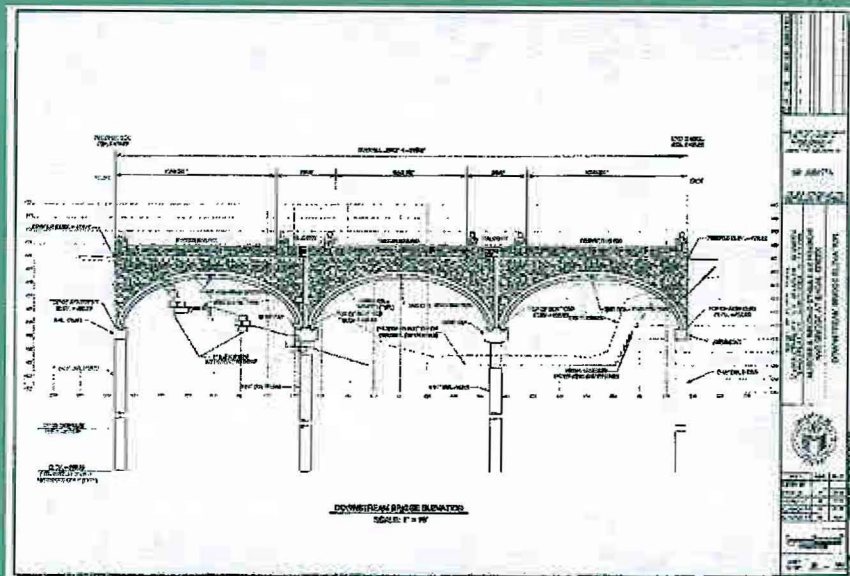
- Implement aggressive Lower Shoal Creek Watershed stormwater treatment retrofit program
- Implement native plant restoration / invasive plant removal projects
- Create dedicated maintenance crew for Shoal Creek



Water Quality Improvement
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

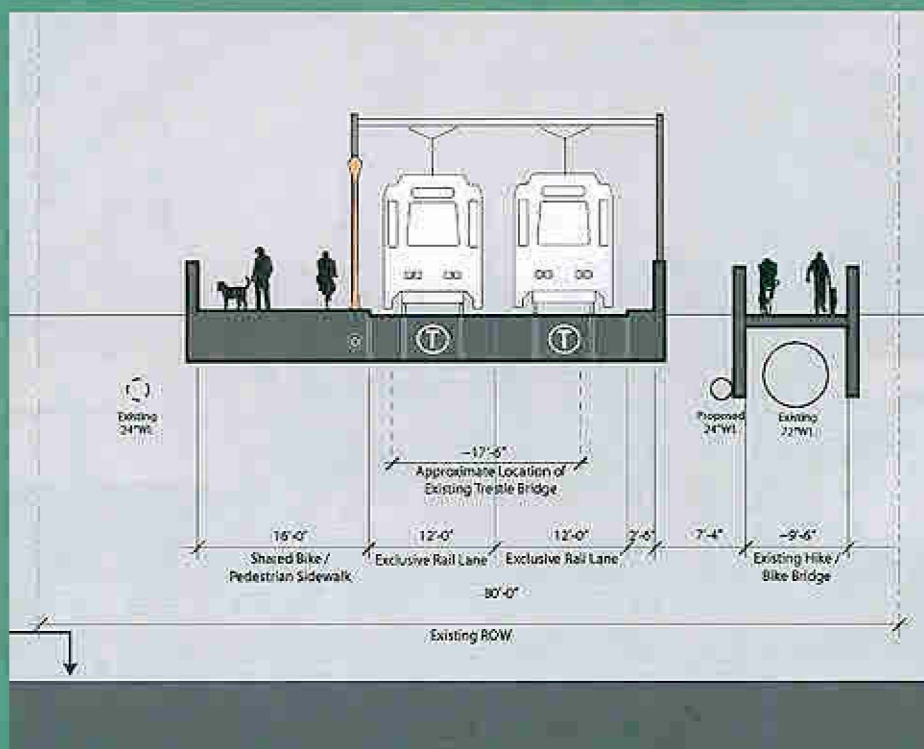
2nd Street Bridge



Crossings Development
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

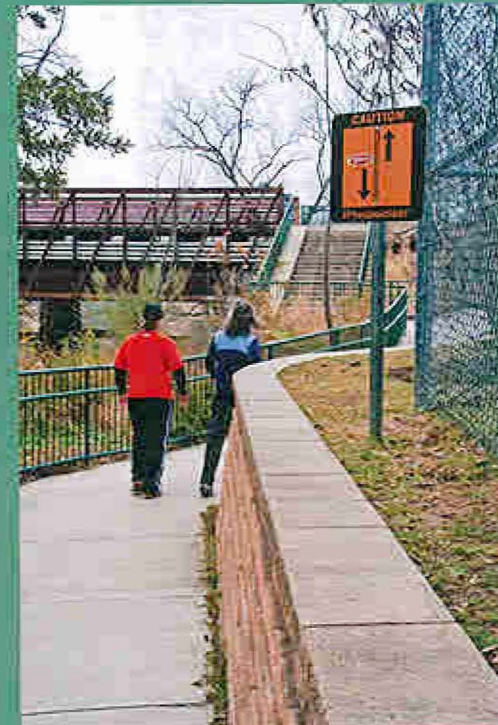
Study multi-modal crossing at 3rd Street
during Urban Rail preliminary engineering



Crossings Development
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

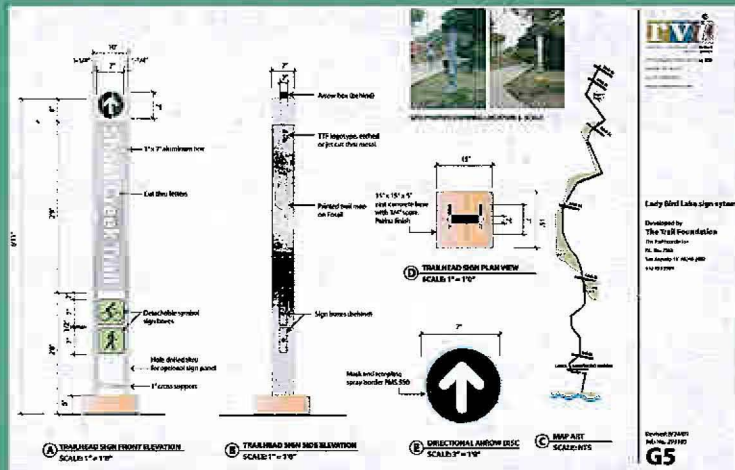
Trail continuity -- Extend main trail below bridges with secondary trails to street level



Crossings Development
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

- Develop holistic design standards for all downtown parks and open spaces through PARD and Parks Board
- Adopt park trail standards for Lower Shoal Creek through PARD and Parks Board
- Encourage private property owners to implement trail enhancements per adopted standards

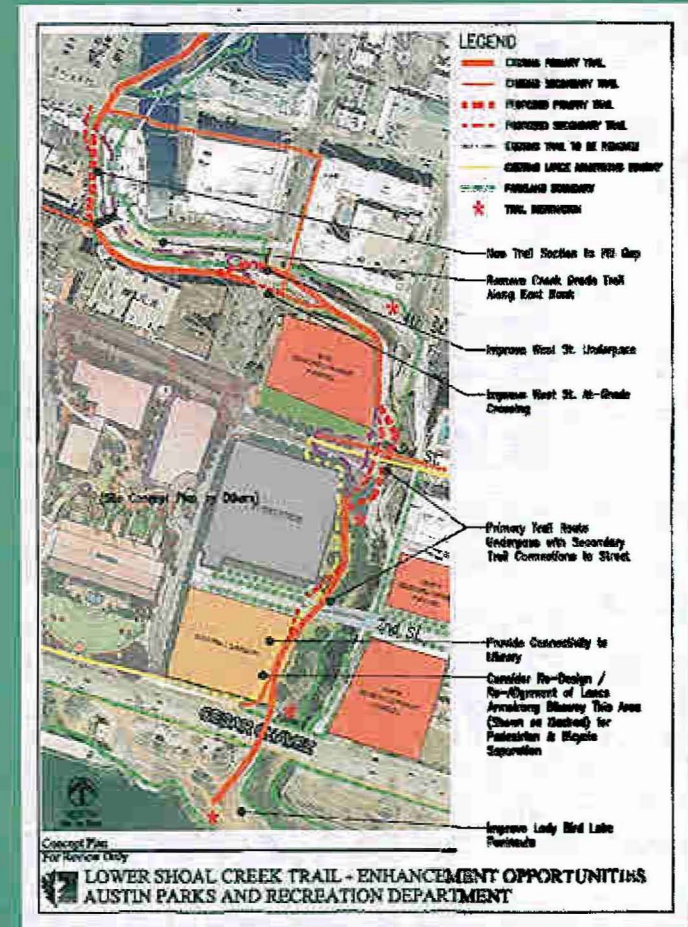


Trail Enhancements Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Implement trail projects

- Consider redesign/realignment of Lance Armstrong Bikeway between Cesar Chavez and 3rd Street
- Provide strong connectivity with Central Library, including intimate scale pocket park spaces

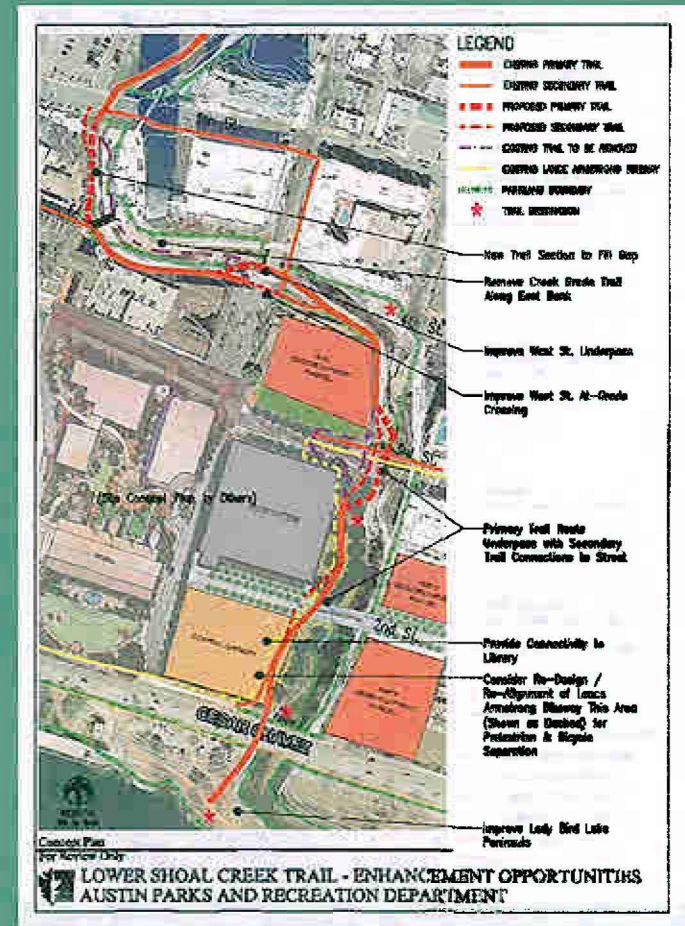


Trail Enhancements
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

Implement trail projects

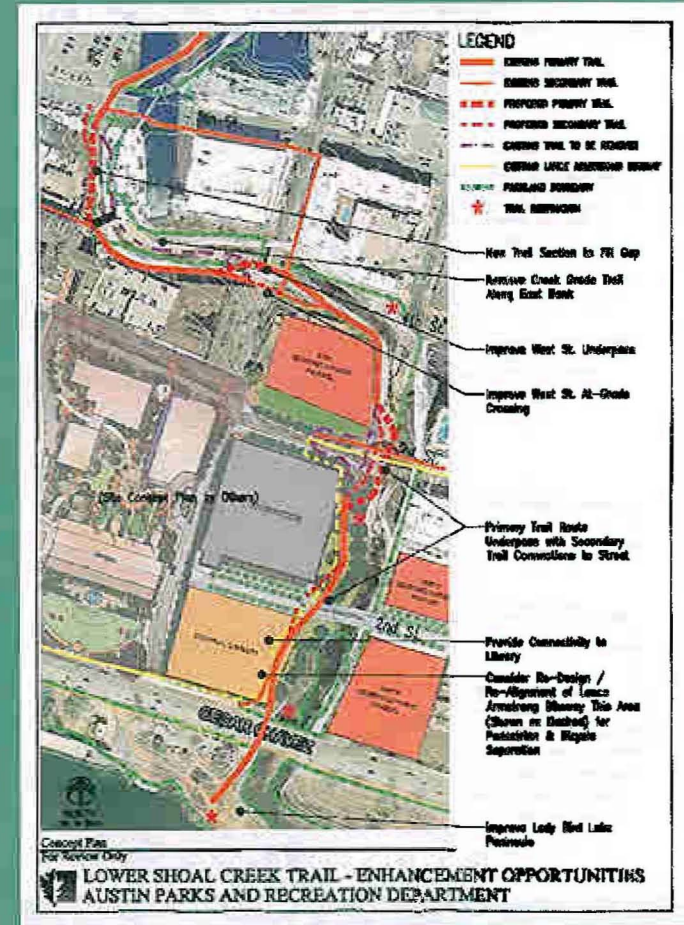
- Align primary trail to pass beneath 2nd and 3rd Street bridges, with secondary trail linkages (ADA accessible) to street grade
- Improve primary trail underpass and at-grade crossing at West Ave.
- Construct new section of trail to close gap between West Ave. and 5th St.



Trail Enhancements
Long Term

Recommended Enhancements

- Conduct Study to evaluate potential destinations points in creek channel
- Potential locations:
 - Lady Bird Lake Peninsula
 - Shoal Beach
 - The Falls
 - Little Shoal Tunnel Beach



Create Destinations
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Lady Bird Lake Peninsula



Identify Destinations
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Shoal Beach



Identify Destinations
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

The Falls



Identify Destinations
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

Little Shoal Tunnel Beach



Identify Destinations
Short Term

Recommended Enhancements

- Create low-impact destination points within Shoal Creek channel
- Study feasibility of boat landing to facilitate access by boat to the Shoal Creek trail system and adjoining uses



Create Destinations
Long Term

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Capturing opportunities:

- Lower Shoal Creek as signature urban park and open space
- Surrounding redevelopment projects contribute to place-making goals by orienting, embracing, enhancing and taking maximum advantage of their location along Lower Shoal Creek



Conclusion

LOWER SHOAL CREEK

Next Steps:

- Securing public input during development of trail standards and other creek enhancements
- Identify funding currently in place for recommended improvements
- Pursue unfunded creek enhancements through CIP Budget process



Conclusion

